

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine
121st Legislature*

First Regular Session

Bill Summaries

*Joint Standing Committee
on
Transportation*

July 2003

Members:

*Sen. Pamela Henderson Hatch, Chair
Sen. Dennis S. Damon
Sen. Christine R. Savage*

Rep. Ronld E. Usher, Chair

Rep. Boyd P. Marley

Rep. Rosaire "Ross" Paradis, Jr.

Rep. Lisa T. Marrache

Rep. Sonya G. Sampson

Rep. Terrence P. McKenney

Rep. Ronald F. Collins

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Rep. Arlan R. Jodrey

Rep. William P. Browne

Staff:

Nicole A. Dube, Legislative Analyst

Jill Ippoliti, Legislative Analyst

Lock Kiermaier, Legislative Analyst

Office of Policy and Legal Analysis

13 State House Station

Augusta, ME 04333

(207) 287-1670

Maine State Legislature



Office Of Policy And Legal Analysis Office Of Fiscal And Program Review

121st Maine Legislature First Regular Session

Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees

Enclosed please find a summary of all bills, resolves, joint study orders, joint resolutions and Constitutional resolutions that were considered by the joint standing and joint select committees of the Maine Legislature this past session. The document is a compilation of bill summaries which describe each bill and relevant amendments, as well as the final action taken. Also included are statistical summaries of bill activity this session for the Legislature and each of its joint standing committees.

The document is organized for convenient reference to information on bills considered by the committees. It is arranged alphabetically by committee name and within committees by bill (LD) number. The committee report(s), prime sponsor for each bill and the lead co-sponsor(s), if designated, are listed below each bill title. All adopted amendments are listed by paper number. Two indices, a subject index and a numerical index by LD number are provided for easy reference to bills. They are located at the back of the document. A separate publication, History and Final Disposition of Legislative Documents, may also be helpful in providing information on the disposition of bills. These bill summaries also are available at the Law and Legislative Reference Library and on the Internet (www.state.me.us/legis/opla).

Final action on each bill is noted to the right of the bill title. The abbreviations used for various categories of final action are as follows:

<i>CARRIED OVER PURSUANT TO HP 1212</i>	<i>Bills carried over to the 2nd Regular Session</i>
<i>CON RES XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses</i>
<i>CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE</i>	<i>Committee of Conference unable to agree; bill died</i>
<i>DIED BETWEEN BODIES</i>	<i>House & Senate disagree; bill died</i>
<i>DIED IN CONCURRENCE</i>	<i>One body accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill</i>
<i>DIED ON ADJOURNMENT</i>	<i>Action incomplete when session ended; bill died</i>
<i>EMERGENCY</i>	<i>Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days</i>
<i>FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE</i>	<i>Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE</i>	<i>Bill failed to get majority vote</i>
<i>FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT</i>	<i>Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY</i>	<i>Ruled out of order by the presiding officers; bill died</i>
<i>INDEF PP</i>	<i>Bill Indefinitely Postponed</i>
<i>ONTP</i>	<i>Ought Not To Pass report accepted</i>
<i>OTP-ND</i>	<i>Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft</i>
<i>P&S XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law</i>
<i>PASSED</i>	<i>Joint Order passed in both bodies</i>
<i>PUBLIC XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Public Law</i>
<i>RESOLVE XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of finally passed Resolve</i>
<i>UNSIGNED</i>	<i>Bill held by Governor</i>
<i>VETO SUSTAINED</i>	<i>Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto</i>

Please note that the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is September 13, 2003.

David C. Elliott, Director
Offices located in Room 215 of the Cross Office Building

Joint Standing Committee on Transportation

LD 1017

An Act To Broaden the Scope of Driving to Endanger

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MARLEY		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1017 proposed to clarify that endangerment of bicyclists and pedestrians is included in the definition of driving to endanger. The bill proposed that in addition to other penalties, if the person endangered is a bicyclist or a pedestrian, the court shall suspend the driver's license for at least 30 days and impose a fine of not less than \$500 nor more than \$1,500, neither of which may be suspended. The bill also proposed to require that the driver attend and successfully complete a defensive driving course. The bill further proposed to prohibit bicyclists from riding a bicycle to endanger.

LD 1018

**An Act To Clarify and Update the Laws Concerning the Types of
Transportation Vehicle Used To Transport Children**

PUBLIC 293

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MARLEY		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-333
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LD 1018 proposed to enact definitions of "allowable alternate vehicle", "full service transportation provider" and "urban fixed-route transit provider" in Title 29-A, Chapter 19, Subchapter 4. This subchapter contains the requirements for school bus operation, equipment and inspection. It proposed to exempt vehicles meeting these definitions from certain school bus requirements.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-333) proposed to replace the original bill and to establish a definition of an "allowable alternate vehicle" to address an existing conflict between current state and federal regulations regarding transportation services for school children. The amendment proposed to authorize the limited use of allowable alternative vehicles for school transportation with specific exemptions from equipment standards for school buses. It also proposed to exempt certain vehicles used for the transport of children to nonschool-based Head Start facilities until January 1, 2006.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2003, chapter 293 establishes a definition for an "allowable alternative vehicle" to address an existing conflict between current state and federal regulations regarding transportation services for school children. Chapter 293 authorizes the limited use of allowable alternative vehicles for school transportation with specific exemptions from current laws regarding equipment standards for school buses. The law also exempts certain vehicles used for the transport of children to nonschool-based Head Start facilities from the equipment, operator and inspection requirements applicable to school buses until January 1, 2006.